



IFW 2874

PTO/SB/21 (09-06)

Approved for use through 03/31/2007. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

Application Number 10/575,128

Filing Date July 25, 2006

First Named Inventor Richard MENDEL et al.

Art Unit 2874

Examiner Name Unassigned

Attorney Docket Number 0904-010

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached | <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> After Final | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application | <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address | <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund | Stamped Return Receipt Postcard |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement | <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) | <input type="text"/> Remarks | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | | |

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name	Potomac Patent Group PLLC		
Signature			
Printed name	Steven M. duBois		
Date	January 5, 2007	Reg. No.	35,023

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:

Signature			
Typed or printed name	Steven M. duBois	Date	January 5, 2007

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.



Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 0904-010

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
Richard MENDEL et al.) Group Art Unit: 2874
Application No.: 10/575,128) Examiner: Unassigned
Filed: July 25, 2006)
For: AUTOMATIC CURRENT)
SELECTION FOR SINGLE FIBER)
SPlicing)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

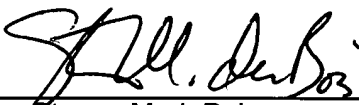
Applicants submit herewith PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B - Information Disclosure Statement together with any required copies of patents, publications or other information of which Applicants are aware, which Applicants believe may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56.

A copy of the International Search Report in which these documents were cited is also attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits and therefore no fee is required.

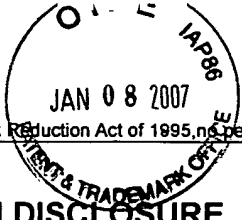
It is requested that the information disclosed herein be made of record in this application.

Respectfully submitted,
POTOMAC PATENT GROUP PLLC

By: 
Steven M. duBois
Registration No. 35,023

Date: January 5, 2007

Potomac Patent Group PLLC
P.O. Box 270
Fredericksburg, VA 22404
(540) 361-1863

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**
(Use as many sheets as necessary)**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/575,128
Filing Date	July 25, 2006
First Named Inventor	Richard MENDEL et al.
Art Unit	2874
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket No.	0904-010

Sheet 1 of 2

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		U.S. 5,909,527	06/01/1999	ZHENG	
		U.S. 6,097,426	08/01/2000	ESMAEILI	
		U.S.			
		U.S.			
		U.S.			
		U.S.			
		U.S.			
		U.S.			
		U.S.			
		U.S.			
		U.S.			
		U.S.			
		U.S.			
		U.S.			
		U.S.			
		U.S.			
		U.S.			
		U.S.			
		U.S.			
		U.S.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials*	Cite No ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		"Country Code" ³ "Number" ⁴ "Kind Code" ⁵ (If known)				

Examiner's
SignatureDate
Considered

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option *

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/575,128
				Filing Date	July 25, 2006
				First Named Inventor	Richard MENDEL et al.
				Art Unit	2874
				Examiner Name	Unassigned
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket No.	0904-010

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials*	Cite No ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		Written Opinion for PCT/SE2004/001442 mailed January 12, 2005	
		International Search Report for PCT/SE2004/001442 mailed January 12, 2005	
		Zheng, W., et al., "Erbium-Doped Fiber Splicing and Splice Loss Estimation," Journal of Lightwave Technology, Vol. 12, No. 3, March 1994, pp. 430-435	
		Katagiri, T., et al., "Direct Core Observation Method Using Thermal Radiation of Silica Fibers with Dopants," Electronics and Communications in Japan, Part 2, Vol. 71, No. 11, 1988, pp. 77-85	

Examiner's Signature	Date Considered
-------------------------	--------------------

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.